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April 2, 2002 LB 1211

SENATOR CUDABACK: Good afternoon. Welcome to the George W. Norris Legislative Chamber. The afternoon session is about to reconvene. Senators, please check in. If you're in the Chamber, please check in, please. Yeah. Record please, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: There is a quorum present, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Beutler, why don't you go ahead? I think Senator Bromm is on his way, but why don't you go ahead with the discussion? We're on discussion of LB 1211. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature, you may recall we're on Senator Bromm's amendment, and Senator Bromm's amendment does several minor things, and one of those things that it does is to with respect to the alliance in our local agreement, it changes the way the members to that board or to that executive board are appointed by involving the Governor more in the appointment process. Before we left for lunch, one of the things I was trying to do was explain my confusion with regard to how the state had any input into the overall amount of construction that would be done. Keep in mind that, overall, there is anticipated to be at least \$55 million in bonds issued. And it's my understanding that if we proceed with this, there will be issued immediately, before the next session passes, the first \$13.5 million or so of that bond issue. And my concern is, and what I want to come to an understanding on, my concern is that once those bonds are issued, we're on track. We're going to be in a position where as a practical matter, we will have to proceed not only with figuring out how to pay off that \$13 million bond issue as between the state and the local political subdivisions which would come to, immediately, at \$1 million a year, but then we'd have to figure out, how are we going to control the remaining expenditures, the subsequent bond issues, how are we going to get input into that, how are we going to pay them? And how much is going to be paid by the state, and how much is going to be paid by local political subdivisions? We haven't been given any information on any of that at this point in time, and yet we're being asked to put this on the track to go. But with regard to construction,